

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 5-9 are pending in this application. By this amendment, Claim 5 is amended; and no claims are canceled or added herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, the drawings were objected to; the specification was objected to; Claims 5-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,162, 283 to Bae; and Claim 9 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Bae.

With respect to the objection to the drawings and specification, as discussed on page 15 of the specification, an example of the invention discusses that the slider 4b is integrally provided to the second body and fits in the slit formed in the first plate provided to the first body. The slider is made of a rectangular block and the slit has a thickness in the z-axial direction, which brings them into slidably face-to-face contact with each other. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings and specification is respectfully requested.

With respect to the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103 based on Bae, Applicant respectfully submits that the applied art does not teach or suggest that the rotation preventing mechanism includes an X-axis rotation preventing means, a Y-axis rotation preventing means, and a Z-axis rotation preventing means, each having an arrangement in which a concavity formed on one body and a respective convexity formed on the other body engage with each other, and each of the arrangements of the X, Y and Z rotation preventing means are provided entirely within the superposed area in the extended state, as recited in Claim 5.

The Office Action asserts that Bae teaches a rotation prevention mechanism in Fig. 2, element 202. Applicant disagrees. In particular, element 202 best shown in Fig. 4 and discussed in col. 4, lines 4-10, is merely a lower casing frame as part of the sliding housing. In contrast, Claim 5 recites in part that the rotation preventing mechanism includes an X-axis, Y-axis, and a Z-axis rotation preventing means, each rotation preventing means includes a concavity formed on one body that engages with a respective convexity formed on the other body. These features are not taught by Bae, nor does the Office Action direct Applicants attention to such a teaching in Bae.

Further, each of the arrangements of the X, Y and Z rotation preventing means are provided entirely within the superposed area in the extended state, as recited in Claim 5. This feature is not taught or suggested in the applied art. The Office Action asserts that Fig. 2 of Bae teaches this feature. Applicant disagrees. If the lower casing frame 202, best shown in Fig. 4, constitutes the rotation preventing means as asserted in the Office Action, then as shown in the extended state of Fig 2 of Bae, the lower casing frame 202 cannot be provided entirely within the superposed area in the extended state. The superposed area of Bae in Fig. 2 would be the area from the top of main housing 10 to the bottom portion of sliding housing 20. As clearly shown in Fig. 2, about half of the casing frame 202 extends above the top of housing 10 and therefore, would not be “within the superposed area,” as claimed.

Further, the applied art does not teach or suggest a first slot is formed in the first body and is slidably engaged with a first slide piece provided on the second body, and a second slot is formed on the second body and is slidably engaged with a second slide piece provided on the first body, with the first and second slots being provided entirely within an area in which the first body and the second body are superposed in the opened state, as recited in independent Claim 6.

In contrast, Bae discusses two guide slots 26 formed in the lower casing frame 202, and a module 30 formed with main housing 10. The guide slots 26 engage the module 30 to provide the closing force to housing 20 in a first sliding length L1 and the opening force to housing 20 in a sliding length L2. As best shown in Fig. 6c, when the phone is in the fully opened position, at least the guide slots 26 that are a part of the frame 202 would extend above the main housing 10 as discussed above. Therefore, the guide slots would not be provided entirely within an area in which the first body and the second body are superposed in the opened state, as recited in Claim 6.

Similar to Bae and as discussed in the Background of the present application, the conventional portable telephone provides for relative sliding of two bodies for putting the telephone in the opened state from the state where the two bodies are superposed completely. However, this results in exposure of the guide slot to outside, thus imposing restrictions in deliberately designing a decoration for the telephone. Further, the exposure of the guide slot causes dirt adhesion to that portion, which may impair smooth sliding. Furthermore, the guide slot provided mostly along the full length of the both edges of the body narrows an available component-mounting space thereof.

In contrast, the rotation preventing mechanism in an example of the invention is provided within the area in which the two bodies are superposed on the other in the extended state, thereby precluding the rotation preventing mechanism from being exposed to the exterior and lightening the restriction on the freedom of design. Further, by being provided within the superposed area, the space required for disposing the rotation preventing mechanism can be reduced as compared with the case where the mechanism is disposed in the whole area of the body. As a result, wider internal mounting space is available as space reduces. The features of the claimed invention are not taught in the applied art and therefore, the applied art cannot provide at least the advantages discussed above.

The features of the claimed invention are not taught by the applied art and therefore, the applied art cannot provide at least the advantages discussed above. Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103 based on Bae is respectfully requested.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below-listed telephone number.

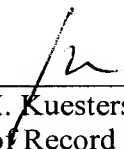
Respectfully submitted,


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